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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED] 3

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY Indochina

DATE DISTR. 11 Sept. 1951

SUBJECT Military Situation in Vietnam

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ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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INFO. [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Following repeated French attacks north of Hanoi, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) northern headquarters and major DRV military units were transferred from Tonkin to Thanh Hoa Province. In order to maintain sea communications with Communist China, the central military headquarters was set up 13 kilometers from the town of Thanh Hoa. DRV forces in Thanh Hoa included four regular divisions and three battalions. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] They have not yet seen action against the French.

2. The DRV is retaining firm control of the Thanh Hoa area in order to launch a full-scale offensive into Tonkin during the forthcoming dry season.
3. Although some Soviet-made equipment is being received by DRV forces, most of their arms are of American make. Chinese Communist arms aid is being received continuously from Kwangtung.
4. General Nguyen Binh has been replaced by General Tran Van Tra¹ as commander of DRV guerrilla units and joint DRV-Cambodian units in South Vietnam. Binh is held responsible for the increasing number of DRV troop defections to the Bao Dai Government.

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